

Message Text

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EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SENATE VOTES OVERSEAS TROOP CUT

THE SENATE VOTED 48-36 LAST NIGHT IN FAVOR OF A MEASURE INTRODUCED BY SEN. HUMPHREY CALLING FOR THE REPATRIATION OF 110,000 GROUND AND AIR FORCES BY DECEMBER 31, 1975, FROM AMONG THE 471,000 TOTAL PRESENTLY STATIONED ABROAD. DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE TWENTY-THREE PERCENT CUT, 40,000 OF THE 110,000 WOULD BE WITHDRAWN. (UNCLASSIFIED)
REUTER 197, 198, 202, AND 208, 9/27.

2. ELF STAGES SPECTACULAR IN ASMARA

THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT SEPTEMBER 27 STAGED AN HOUR LONG "SPECTACULAR" WITH AUTOMATIC GUNFIRE IN ASMARA. CONSULATE GENERAL ASMARA REPORTS THERE WERE APPARENTLY NO PARTICULAR TARGETS AND THAT NO VIPS WERE IN-
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JURED. THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IS SAFE AND THE SITUATION IS UNDER CONTROL. ASMARA BELIEVES THE ATTACK WAS CARRIED OUT TO SOW PANIC AMONG THE POPULATION AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE ELF HAS THE CAPABILITY TO BACK ITS THREATS WITH AN ACTUAL SHOW OF FORCE. (CONFIDENTIAL)

ASMARA 776, 9/27 (LIMDIS).

3. ICELANDIC FISHERIES DISPUTE

A. UK MAKES PROPOSAL...

THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS INFORMED EMBASSY LONDON THAT PRIME MINISTER HEATH SENT A PROPOSAL TO HIS ICELANDIC COUNTERPART ON SEPTEMBER 25 OFFERING TO WITHDRAW BRITISH FRIGATES FROM ICELANDIC WATERS BETWEEN THE 12 TO 50 MILE LIMIT FOR A TWO-WEEK PERIOD IN RETURN FOR ICELAND'S ASSURANCE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO HARASSMENT OF BRITISH TRAWLERS FISHING WITHIN THE 12-50 MILE ZONE. TALKS WOULD THEN BE RESUMED ON A CATCH LIMITATION, WITH THE 50 MILE LIMIT ISSUE BEING DEFERRED UNTIL THE 1974 LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. (SECRET) LONDON 11152, 9/27 (EXDIS/NOFORN).

B. WHILE ICELAND READIES ULTIMATUM

EMBASSY REYKJAVIK REPORTS THAT ICELANDIC RADIO NEWS ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 27 THAT THE ICELANDIC CABINET WILL INFORM THE BRITISH THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WILL BE SEVERED ON OCTOBER 3 UNLESS THE UK AGREES TO WITHDRAW ITS NAVAL UNITS AND TUGBOATS BEYOND THE 50 MILE LIMIT BEFORE THAT TIME. (UNCLASSIFIED) REYKJAVIK 1146, 9/27. KISSINGER

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